

RURAL DISTRICT OF CHELTENHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1965

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CHELTHENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1965

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report for 1965 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District. The Report is prepared as required by the Public Health Officers Regulations 1955 and Circular 1/66 of the Ministry of Health.

I am indebted to other officers of the Council for much of the material from which the Report is prepared and especially to Mr. L.Grogan, the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector for the sections dealing with the work of his department.

The population, estimated to be 37,690, again shows a large annual increase of some 1,790 persons. The health statistics are favourable and reflect on a thriving healthy community; for the birth rate at 21.89 per 1000 is higher than the national average while the death rate 8.6 is much lower than that for England and Wales as a whole.

Except for an epidemic of measles the incidence of infectious disease was extremely slight, due in large measure to the ready use made by parents of the facilities for immunisation and vaccination which are available for the children.

Complaints were made in different parts of the District of discolouration and sediment in the mains water supply. Reports on bacteriological and chemical analyses showed the water to be fit for human consumption. The North West Gloucestershire Water Board which became responsible for the water supply on the 1st April, took various measures to overcome and deal with this problem as it arose.

The Council built 32 flats and 6 old persons bungalows during the year. At Atherton Close, Shurdington, 38 self-contained flatlets were under construction. These dwellings have specially adapted facilities and a warden service, enabling old people to maintain their independence for longer than would otherwise be possible.

The Sewerage schemes for Coberley and Toddington were completed and a start was made on improvement and enlargement of the treatment works at Badgeworth, Alderton and Gretton, and Twynning.


I am grateful for this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the members of the Council and to my colleagues for the help and support I have received during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health.



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CHELTENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	81,918
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	..	..	..	..	..	..	37,690
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1965)	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,612
Rateable Value (at 31.12.65)	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,381,823
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£5,679

VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Rural District.

1. LIVE BIRTHS

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	..	..	789	393	396
.. .. Illegitimate	..	..	36	20	16
		Total	825	413	412

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	21.89
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	0.94
Corrected Birth Rate (21.89 x 0.94)	20.58

2. ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS (per cent of Total Live Births)

4.4

3. STILL BIRTHS

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	..	..	8	5	3
.. .. Illegitimate	..	..	-	-	-
		Total	8	5	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births: 9.60

4. TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

833

5. INFANT DEATHS

(i) Deaths of infants under 1 year

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	..	..	14	3	11
.. .. Illegitimate	..	..	-	-	-
		Total	14	3	11

(ii) Neo-natal Deaths under 4 weeks

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	..	..	11	3	8
.. .. Illegitimate	..	..	-	-	-
		Total:	11	3	8

(iii) Early neo-natal Deaths of infants under 1 week

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	..	..	9	2	7
.. .. Illegitimate	..	..	-	-	-
		Total	9	2	7

## 6. INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	..	16.97
Legitimate " " " " Legitimate live births		17.8
Illegitimate " " " " Illegitimate live births		NIL

7. NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) .. 13.30

8. EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) .. 10.91

9. PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) .. .. 20.4

10. MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths	.. .. .	..	..None
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..	..Nil

11. <u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number	327	180	147
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population		8.6	
Area Comparability Factors (Deaths)		1.23	
Corrected Death Rate (8.6 x 1.23)		10.58	

## POPULATION

The population estimated by the Registrar General for mid 1965 is 37,690 as compared with 35,900 for the previous year; the annual increase in population is 1,790.

## BIRTH RATE

Live births numbered 825, the Birth Rate being 21.89 per 1,000 population, which compares favourably with the national average 18.1.

## DEATH RATE

327 people died during the year, the Death Rate being 8.6 per 1,000 population, again considerably lower than 11.5 for England and Wales.

## INFANT MORTALITY

Fourteen infants under one year of age died during the year, the Infant Mortality being at the rate of 16.97 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, which is below the national average 19.0.

## CANCER

Death Rates from cancer per 1,000 population:

	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>		<u>Cheltenham R.D.</u>	
	<u>Persons</u>		<u>Persons</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cancer of the Lung	0.96	0.17	0.90	0.05
Other cancer	1.52	1.82	1.4	1.3

Seventeen men and one woman died of cancer of the lung; however it will be noted that the mortality from this disease is similar to that for England and Wales.

# CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classifications:

	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach	10	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	17	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	19
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	29
18. Coronary disease, angina	39	28
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	1
20. Other heart disease	31	20
21. Other circulatory disease	9	4
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	5	8
24. Bronchitis	7	1
25. Other disease of the respiratory system	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	17
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	2
34. All other accidents	1	3
35. Suicide	4	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	<hr/> 180 <hr/>	<hr/> 147 <hr/>

## PERCENTAGE BIRTH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	18.8	19.1	21.1	20.47	21.89
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	9.2	9.0	9.2	8.6	8.6
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 year)	20.5	29.0	12.5	17.7	16.97
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births (Deaths of infants under 1 month)	15.3	22.5	9.7	10.9	13.30

## COMPARISON WITH THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES ETC., FOR 1965

	England & Wales	County of Glos.	Cheltenham R.D.
Live Birth Rate	18.1	19.82	21.89
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	15.7	13.29	9.60
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births - deaths of infants under 1 year)	19.0	16.45	16.97
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births - deaths of infants under 1 month)	13.0	10.69	13.30

	England & Wales	County of Glos.	Cheltenham R.D.
Perinatal Mortality Rate (per			
1,000 Live and Still Births -	26.9	22.19	20.4
Still Births and Infant Deaths			
under 1 week			
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.5	10.14	8.6

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTION AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1965  
(excluding Tuberculosis)

	Under 25 and Age						over unknown				Total			
	1 year		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 - 24							
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Scarlet Fever	1		1	3	8	7	1	-	-	-	1	-	11	11
Whooping Cough	-		-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Poliomyelitis, para- lytic, non-paralytic	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	11	15	184	183	176	140	1	4	-	-	5	1	377	343
Diphtheria	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-		3	-	2	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	6	3
Meningococcal infection	1		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

	Under 65 years				65 and over				Total	
	5 years	5 - 14	15 - 44	45 - 64	over				M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1
Encephalitis, infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5

Scarlet Fever Twenty-two cases were notified, Scarlet fever continues to be slight in incidence and mild in character.

Diphtheria No case has occurred in the District since 1949.

Whooping Cough Only two cases were notified, a tribute to the success of the vaccination campaign.

Measles 720 cases of measles were notified, the incidence of this disease is heavier in alternate years.

Poliomyelitis No case of poliomyelitis occurred.

Food Poisoning Seven cases of food poisoning were notified, most of these were due to Salmonella infection.

(a) Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) as Returned to Registrar General

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
-	7	-	-	7

(b) CASES OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED Nil

(c) SYMPTOMLESS EXCRETERS Nil

(d) FATAL CASES Nil

	No. of Outbreaks		No. of Cases		Total No. of Cases
	Family Outbreaks	Other Outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise Ascertained	
Agent identified	Nil	Nil	7	Nil	7

Dysentery The 9 cases of dysentery were of the mild Sonne type.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the number of children immunised against diphtheria during 1965:

Age at 31.12.65 i.e. born in year	Under 1 yr. 1965	1 year 1964	2-4 yrs. 1963-61	5-14 yrs. 1960-51	Under 15 yrs Total
Primary Immunisation	365	244	24	20	653

Table of comparison showing the number of children immunised in 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964 and 1965, and the number of births in 1965.

No. of Live Births	Primary Immunisation				
1965	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
825	608	499	573	689	653

The immunisation campaign is successful, the number of immunisations being about 80% of the number of births.

### VACCINATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

#### Primary Vaccination

Age at 31.12.65 i.e. born in year	Under 1 yr. 1965	1 year 1964	2-4 yrs. 1963-61	5-14 yrs. 1960-51	Under 15 yrs. Total
	364	243	24	2	633

Protection against whooping cough is of the greatest importance in early infancy.

### VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year:-

	Under 1 yr.	1 year	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 or over	Total
Vaccination	25	280	61	10	3	379

Acceptance of vaccination against smallpox compares favourably with other areas.

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### New Cases

	Children		All persons
	0-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	
Respiratory	-	-	8
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-
Other forms	-	-	1
			Total: 9

#### Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory	2	1	3
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-
Other forms	-	-	-

### Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1965, was as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-pulmonary</u>			<u>All forms</u>
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
58	28	86	3	12	15	101

There were three deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, and nine new cases were notified. Sources of infection in the community exist but treatment today is relatively rapid and effective and tuberculosis could be eliminated if the preventive measures were fully implemented. Full support for Mass Radiography, tracing contacts and B.C.G. Vaccination is required.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

#### Food & Drugs Act, 1955

#### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The Food Hygiene Regulations require that clean food should be dealt with only by clean persons in clean premises, using clean equipment.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

#### Section 47 - Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and attention

#### National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 - Section 1

These Acts give local authorities power to apply to the Courts for the compulsory removal of aged or sick persons who are living in insanitary conditions; are unable to provide for themselves; and are not receiving from other people, proper care and attention. No application was necessary during the year.

The Home Help Service and Old People's Welfare Committee have been of great assistance to many elderly people, enabling them to carry on in their own homes.

#### Old People's Welfare Committee

The Council have set up an Old People's Welfare Committee to co-ordinate the efforts of voluntary workers on behalf of old people in the Rural District. This Committee meets quarterly and is attended by representatives from each parish, who report on the local situation. The Committee does much to promote the welfare of elderly people in the Rural District.

#### Problem Families

The scheme agreed between the County Council and District Council for the rehabilitation of problem families, continued to operate during the year. Under the scheme, the County Council guarantee 75% of the rent if the case is accepted. When arrears of rent are such as to render a family liable to eviction from a Council house, the circumstances are reported to the County Social Welfare Officer.

Forty-two families were within the Rent Guarantee Scheme at the beginning of the year and 37 families remained under this supervision at the 31st December, 1965.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

### Laboratory Facilities

Samples of water, milk and ice-cream and pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Gloucester Royal Hospital. The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health and no charge is made for making use of its services.

Specimens for chemical examination are submitted to the City and County Analyst, Bristol, or Worcester.

### HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is organised by the County Council and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness. As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, Council Offices, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. (Telephone No. Cheltenham 25746 and 25747).

### Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the County Council. Information is available from the Council Offices or the Divisional Health Office, Charlton Kings.

### CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

#### Gloucestershire County Council

Apperley	Last Thursday	Stanway	2nd Friday
Ashchurch	Alternate Tues.	Twynning	2nd Thursday
Bishops Cleeve	Wednesdays	Warden Hill	Tuesdays
Dumbleton	4th Friday	Winchcombe	1st & 3rd Tues.
Leckhampton	Each Friday	Witcombe & Bentham	1st & 3rd Tues.
Prestbury	Tuesdays	*Gotherington	1st Wednesday
The Reddings	2nd & 4th Thurs.	*Swindon Village	2nd & 4th Mon. P.M.
Shurdington	1st & 3rd Wed.	*Uckington	4th Mon. A.M.
		* Mobile Unit	

These centres are under the administration of the North Gloucestershire Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council. The Rural District Council has representatives on this Committee. Nearly all mothers and babies attend. The bulk of the work falls upon the ladies of the local Voluntary Committees and the thanks of the community are due to them for their devotion to this work.

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

#### Stanton Open-air Pool

This concrete lined pool has a capacity of 70,000 gallons and is situated a few hundred yards to the east of the village. During the summer months it is in constant use, not only by bathers from Stanton and the surrounding villages, but also by visitors to the Gloucestershire Education Authority's Summer Youth Camp, close by.

While the pool is maintained and administered by the Parish Council, the water is supplied by the Water Undertaking. Chlorination is carried out by means of sulphate of ammonia and chloros and the pool is emptied, thoroughly cleansed and re-filled at approximately fortnightly intervals. Samples for bacteriological examination are taken periodically.

#### WATER SUPPLY

A considerable part of the Rural District was within the statutory supply area of the Gloucester and Cheltenham Corporations' water undertaking up to 31st March, 1965. On 1st April, 1965, the Council's water undertaking was taken over by the North West Gloucestershire Water Board.

The supply in the district was satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year. Complaints regarding discolouration and sediment were received and the Water Board took various measures to overcome and deal with this problem. All the supplies are chlorinated.

Samples were taken for bacteriological analysis from public and private supplies.

None of the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses supplied direct into houses	Population supplied direct into houses	Population supplied by means of standpipe
Alderton	204	601	204	601	-
Ashchurch	674	2,486	674	2,486	-
Badgeworth	582	1,868	582	1,868	-
Bishops Cleeve	1,900	6,436	1,900	6,436	-
Boddington	91	291	91	291	-
* Buckland	77	225	77	225	-
Coberley	84	306	84	306	-
* Cowley	100	314	100	314	-
Deerhurst	177	564	169	539	-
* Dumbleton	159	509	156	499	-
Elmstone Hardwicke	67	250	67	250	-
Gotherington	269	834	269	834	-
* Great Witcombe	34	108	34	108	-
Hawling	49	168	49	168	-
Leckhampton	1,356	4,196	1,356	4,196	-
Leigh	88	276	88	276	-
* Oxenton	53	157	53	157	-
* Prescott	27	90	27	90	-
Prestbury	1,535	4,867	1,535	4,867	-
Shurdington	581	1,820	581	1,820	-
Snowhill	64	221	64	221	-
Southam	215	624	213	618	-
Stanton	93	262	93	262	-
Stanway	132	409	132	409	-
Staverton	251	705	251	705	-
Stoke Orchard	94	302	94	302	-
* Sudeley	37	140	37	140	-
Swindon	299	1,002	299	1,002	-
Teddington	83	245	81	239	6
Toddington	117	398	117	398	-
Twynning	284	908	271	867	-
Uckington	115	383	115	383	-
Up Hatherley	389	1,123	389	1,123	-
Walton Cardiff	19	57	19	57	-
Winchcombe	1,246	3,820	1,245	3,818	2
Woodmancote	441	1,418	441	1,418	-
Totals:	11,986	38,383	11,957	38,293	8

\* Private or part-private supplies

CHELTHENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor  
on the Work of his Department for the year 1965

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Department for which I am responsible.

The activities of the Council have, in some spheres, increased during the year. By grouping the various duties under separate headings, I have endeavoured to give an indication of the extent of the work undertaken by the department.

HOUSING

The number of new dwellings completed in the district during the year totalled 457, of these 413 were erected by private enterprise. The Council completed 6 bungalows and 32 flats at Shurdington. The remaining 6 dwellings were erected by Cheltenham Corporation.

Taking a figure of slightly over 3 persons per dwelling, it is estimated that accommodation was provided for a population of approximately 1,400, with consequent increase in the demand for services, such as water supply, sewerage and refuse collection.

The Council has maintained its activities regarding improvement grants and owners of property are encouraged to make applications and every assistance is given to applicants. There are still many properties in need of improvement and it is hoped that in course of time, the majority, if not all, will take advantage of the benefits of the scheme.

Repairs to Council Houses

Repairs to Council houses are generally carried out by direct labour, and at the end of the year, we employed a total of ten men upon this work (not including part-time of the Foremen). The following figures show the work carried out:-

	Year ending:	<u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>	
No. of houses repairable by the Council at the end of the year (others will be released from Contractors from time to time).		1,593	1,603	
No. of Garages repairable by the Council		-	342	
No. of repair orders completed by the Council's staff (an order may contain several items).		1,387	1,422	
No. of repair orders completed by Contractors including electricity and gas		1,271	650	
	Completed <u>1960-1964</u>	Completed <u>1965</u>	<u>In Progress</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
Number of Pre-war Council Houses improved	59	43	6	138
	Year ending:	<u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>	
No. of houses overhauled and re-decorated externally (by contract)		304		306
No. of tiled surround fireplaces fitted		18		13

	Year ending:	<u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>
No. of defective draining boards replaced		39	38
No. of defective firebaskets/bottom bars replaced		26	43
No. of defective sinks replaced		5	10
No. of defective sanitary pails replaced		2	1
No. of W.C. pans replaced		24	34
No. of defective taps replaced		20	18
No. of defective flush boxes replaced		8	19
No. of defective chimney pots replaced		23	6
No. of defective lavatory basins replaced		12	18
No. of defective W.C. seats replaced		23	20
No. of gate-posts renewed		16	18
No. of roofs repaired		41	99
No. of eaves gutters and/or downpipes repaired		79	104
No. of visits to Council houses for various purposes		5,021	5,330
No. of cases where damage has been repaired at the tenant's expense		15	14
No. of applications to erect television aerials dealt with		40	34

Other activities in housing

Unfit Houses

Action was taken as follows:-

Demolition Orders	1
Closing Orders	1
Undertakings to execute works to render fit for habitation	Nil
Undertakings not to use for human habitation until rendered fit	3

Housing Act, 1957/1961

Houses demolished in Clearance Areas, unfit for Human Habitation Nil

Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas but as a result of formal or informal procedure under section 17(1) Nil

Unfit houses closed under section 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957, and section 26 Housing Act, 1961 6

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

After informal action	64
After formal notice under sections 9 & 16	Nil
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	Nil
Under section 24, Housing Act, 1957	4

No. of housing inspections or re-visits: 186

## Improvement Grants

During the year, 21 applications for Discretionary Grants affecting 29 properties and 39 applications for Standard Grants affecting 39 properties were approved. The total number of Discretionary Grants approved since the Council became the authority for dealing with these cases has risen to 536 cases affecting 620 properties and the amount of grants approved totals £197,709 up to the end of 1965. The total number of Standard Grants so far approved affected 147 properties and the estimated amount of grants involved was £20,714.

The results have in all instances been very satisfactory and there is no doubt that this scheme has enabled accommodation to be retained and thus avoided the Council having to provide more houses.

Year ending:	<u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>
No. of houses in respect of which Discretionary Improvement Grants were approved:-		
(a) Improvements	36	21
(b) Conversions	3	8
No. of houses in respect of which Standard Improvement Grants were approved:-	36	39
No. of inspections regarding Improvement Grants:-	384	206

## Building Byelaws

The work in connection with the Building Byelaws is as follows:-

New houses completed	<u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>
Council houses/flats	33	38
Private Enterprise	536	413
Cheltenham Corporation	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>
	569	457
No. of dwellings provided by conversion of existing buildings and dwellings	9	15
No. of houses in course of erection:		
Council	46	133
Private Enterprise	336	235
Total number of plans received and considered	751	719
Number of plans resubmitted	128	108
Total considered by Committee	879	827
Total number of plans approved permanent	814	749
Total number of plans approved temporary	-	21
Total number of plans disapproved	65	57
Temporary approvals renewed	15	20
Plans declared of no effect	61	-
Temporary buildings removed	1	-
Number of informal notices sent	1	8
No. of recommendations to Area Planning Officer	392	423
No. of visits to properties and sites	4,158	4,628

Each plan when received is checked, and if there is any discrepancy and time permits, the owner's or architect's attention is drawn to this with a view to the necessary alterations being made prior to consideration by the Committee.

Every endeavour is made to inspect work at the following stages - excavation of foundations; completion of concrete foundations; dampcourse; roofing; testing of drains installation of fittings; and completion.

In a number of cases, the owners of houses have obtained loans through the Council under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, (as amended), and in such cases more frequent inspections are made and the work is closely checked before certificates are issued for payments.

# PUBLIC HEALTH

Under this heading has been included the work in connection with milk supply, infectious diseases, water supply, nuisances, disinfectations, tents, vans and sheds, factories and workshops, pollution of streams, inspection of food premises, public conveniences and sewage disposal etc.

The following figures show the activities during the year:-

	Year ending: <u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>
No. of complaints received or nuisances discovered	66	102
Nuisances abated	54	77
Complaints not justified	12	25
Informal notices sent	15	25
Statutory notices served	1	Nil
No. of premises disinfested	4	7
No. of visits in connection with the above items	295	483
No. of new drainage systems installed	52	74
Visits to new drainage systems	259	281
Number of visits to public conveniences	80	41
Infectious disease visits	33	56
Visits in connection with street numbering	364	27

## Inspection of foods

The following foodstuffs have been condemned:-

	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Canned fish			12	7
Canned meat		2	23	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fruit juice			9	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tomatoes		1	15	8
Canned fruit	1	2	15	12 $\frac{1}{4}$
Vegetables		3	26	12
Semolina and rice			6	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Spaghetti			2	0
Soup			4	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total:	4 cwt.	0 qr.	3 lb.	15 oz.

Tinned milk: 31 pints.

## Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep &amp; Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed	166	5	1023	282	-
Number inspected	166	5	1023	282	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	-	32	17	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and systicerci	4.2%	-	3.1%	6.0%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	-	1	7	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis	2.4%	-	0.1%	2.5%	-

Total amount of meat condemned: 2 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

## Methods of disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned food is disposed of as follows:

- (a) By burial in lime.
- (b) In suitable cases by disposal to knackers' yards by arrangement with the adjoining Public Health Authority.

No. of Special Examinations of a Stock or Consignment of food Nil  
No. of visits to Slaughterhouses - 102.

## Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Food shops and catering establishments are inspected to ensure that food is wholesome and to verify compliance with the Act. The number of premises are as follows:

Trade	Total	Fitted to comply with Regulation 16	Regulation 19 applicable	Fitted to comply with Regulation 19
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Butchers	11	11	11	11
Cafes	14	10	13	13
Confectioners	9	7	8	8
Fishfriers	2	2	2	2
General Stores	55	49	53	48
Greengrocers	8	5	8	8
Sweet Retailers	2	2	1	-
Hotels	13	9	13	10
Public Houses	43	40	42	40
Factory Canteens	11	11	10	10
Clubs	11	9	11	10
Wet Fish	1	1	1	1
Totals:	188	164	181	169

Mobile General Stores: 5  
Mobile Butcher's Stores: 3  
Informal Notices sent: 6

## Food & Drugs Act, 1955

During the year, 12 complaints were received as to the condition and quality of food purchased by members of the public. In 3 instances the complaints were not justified, 3 successful prosecutions were taken and 6 warning letters sent to offending firms.

## Section 16 (1)

Number of premises registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream .. .. .	94
Number of applications considered and licences issued during the year .. .. .	4
Number of premises registered for the preparation of preserved foods intended for sale .. .. .	4
Total number of visits in connection with the Food and Drugs Acts .. .. .	292

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year, a further 90 premises were registered as a result of a number of routine visits under the provisions of the Act. It is now thought that by and large, most premises in the area to which the Act applies are registered.

No serious contraventions have been found throughout the year in the premises receiving a general inspection. It is, however, interesting to note that no accidents have been reported during the year.

No. of visits: 150.

## Lighting

From the class of premises inspected during the year of 1965, the average standard of lighting found was reasonable with regard to the requirements of the Act, and no bad examples were found. As yet, no standards of lumens as regards lighting have been recommended and no examples of excessive glare found.

Four retail shops were inspected during the month of November, 1965, but as yet, in the absence of any detailed lighting regulations, conditions were found to be satisfactory for the type of work concerned.

## The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

At the end of the year, the number of licenced sites in use totalled 114, covering 724 (including 136 seasonal) caravans. Comparison with the 1965 figure shows a reduction of 19 sites and this was due to expiration of licences which were for a temporary period.

Inspections of the larger sites, none of which have closed down, have not revealed any serious contraventions of the site licence conditions. In some instances, sitings were found to be unsatisfactory due to substitution of larger caravans and owners were requested to re site these.

Applications were dealt with as follows:

New Sites	9 relating to 34 caravans
" " (seasonal)	2 " " 14 "
Additions to existing sites	1 " " 4 "
" " " " (seasonal)	2 " " 12 "
Renewal of site licences	7 " " 7 "

No. of visits to sites: 312.

No. of informal notices served: 1.

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## Factories Act, 1961

	<u>Year ending:</u>	<u>31.12.64</u>	<u>31.12.65</u>
Number of visits to factories:		209	210
Number of informal notices served:		1	3

See also additional information annexed to this report.

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## Sewage Disposal

The provision of sewers and treatment works were completed at Coberley and Toddington. The enlargement of the sewage disposal works at Brockhampton was completed, with the exception of a few small items.

Work was commenced on the enlargement of the Sewage Disposal Works at Badgeworth, improvements to Alderton/Gretton Sewage Disposal Works, and treatment works at Twynning.

Schemes are in course of preparation as follows:

Enlargement of sewage works, Winchcombe.  
Provision of sewers and works at Teddington.

Number of visits to Sewage Disposal Works etc. 1752.

## Water Supplies

The number of new connections made to the mains during the year totalled 482.

Number of visits to supplies mains, etc. 76.

The following Water Mains were taken over by the North West Gloucestershire Water Board on 1st April, 1965:

Cast Iron and Asbestos

2"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,665 yards
3"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90,860 yards
of which 4,700 are supply mains											
4"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86,965 yards
of which 26,710 yards are supply and pumping mains											
5"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,895 yards
of which 1,770 yards are supply and pumping mains											
6"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31,225 yards
of which 4,820 yards are supply and pumping mains											
7"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,250 yards
9"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	920 yards

Galvanised, Asbestos and Copper

2"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,405 yards
1 1/2"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,050 yards
1 3/4"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,475 yards
1"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,370 yards
3/4"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,245 yards
Total:											276,325 yards

= 157 miles, 5 yards.

Refuse and Salvage

Built-up areas receive two collections and the remainder of the district one collection every fortnight. The volume of household refuse is increasing and changing in nature due to the growing tendency to prepack commodities, and this is causing difficulty in disposal.

The controlled method of tipping is undertaken and refuse is tipped at Shurdington, Winchcombe and Twynning. These tips will soon reach their capacity.

No. of visits to tips, etc.: 250.

Vehicles: 1 Shelvoke & Drewry 50 cu.yd. Pakamatic  
1 Eagle Compressmore 12/24 cu.yd.  
3 Shelvoke & Drewry 16/20 cu.yd. fore and aft tippers  
2 Karrier 12 cu.yd. side loading tippers.

No. of Dwellings	<u>31.12.63</u> 10992	<u>31.12.64</u> 11546	<u>31.12.65</u> 11992
Distance travelled by vehicles (miles)	53590	61339	63418

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Number of visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Number of informal notices sent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

CAR PARKS

The Council completed the construction of a car park with accommodation for 34 cars at Bishops Cleeve. Regulations governing the parking of vehicles on the car park came into force on 1st October, 1965 under The Cheltenham Rural District (off Street Parking Places) No. 1 Order 1965.

No. of visits: 37.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936

No. of informal notices served .. .. .	69
No. of licences issued to store petroleum .. .. .	79
No. of visits .. .	170

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Action taken was as follows:

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural Premises
Properties inspected following notification	2	92	23	5
Number infested by Common Rat	2	48	16	3
" " " House Mouse	2	-	3	.
Properties inspected in course of survey	31	72	63	180
Number of such properties found to be infested by Common Rat	28	7	37	30
Number of such properties found to be infested by House Mouse	-	5	24	19
Total No. of infested properties treated	30	58	62	34
Total treatments carried out	150	81	142	130
Total No. of visits by Pest Operator	2,123			
Total No. of visits by other members of the staff	32			
No. of informal notices served	1			

Treatment of Sewers

The Council's sewers were test baited in May, 1965 and where takes were recorded, the manholes were treated, together with one on each side where this was possible. Treatment was continued until no further takes were recorded. Manholes affected were as follows:

	Manholes Tested	Manholes Infested	Manholes Treated
Alderton	5	Nil	Nil
Ashchurch	5	Nil	Nil
Badgeworth (Witcombe)	3	Nil	Nil
Bishops Cleeve	12	Nil	Nil
Gotherington	6	Nil	Nil
Leckhampton	16	1	1
Prestbury	19	5	15
Shurdington	10	1	3
Southam	5	Nil	Nil
Swindon	6	Nil	Nil
Up Hatherley	3	Nil	Nil
Winchcombe	11	Nil	Nil
Woodmancote	7	2	4

## LOANS FOR HOUSE PURCHASE

The work involved is first in checking the plans and specifications prior to loan sanction, and afterwards inspection of the work to see that it is satisfactory, and certifying payment at the appropriate stages.

During the year, advances were made in 26 cases, these totalling £74,115; the total advances to the end of 1965 was 796, the amount loaned being £1,539,504. These figures do not include those relating to the Bishops Cleeve Housing Association and the Dowty Housing Association.

Number of visits: 81.

### S U M M A R Y

The foregoing report deals with the principal sections, but during the year, there were other fields of activity such as dangerous structures, Milk & Dairies Regulations, Street Numbering, inspection of housing sites, Licensing, Betting, Gaming and Lotteries, Let Animals, Animal Boarding Acts, etc. These have entailed a number of visits and inspections.

A summary of the visits, apart from the maintenance of the Council's Water supplies, or the Clerk of Works on Housing, Water or Sewerage Schemes, is as follows:-

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Council House repairs	5139	5021	5330
Housing Act inspections	245	202	186
Improvement Grants	389	384	206
Building Byelaws	3316	4158	4628
<u>Public Health</u>			
Nuisances, Statutory Notices etc.	301	295	483
New drainage systems	182	250	281
Public conveniences	59	80	41
Infectious diseases	33	33	56
Street numbering	306	364	27
Slaughterhouse	117	110	102
Food and Drugs Acts	223	328	292
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963			150
Caravan Sites	572	409	312
Factories and Workshops Act	202	209	210
Sewage Disposal Works etc.	1665	2033	1752
Water supplies	151	103	76
Refuse and Salvage	511	293	250
Public Rights of Way	115	114	85
Car parks			37
Petroleum Act 1928 & 1936	155	147	170
Pest Destruction	1743	2244	2155
Loans for House Purchase	338	346	81
Miscellaneous visits	207	162	244
	<u>16,049</u>	<u>17,294</u>	<u>17,154</u>

No. of communications despatched from the office during the year: 3,984.

The year has again been one of considerable activity and I wish to thank all members of the Council's staff for the good work they have done during the year and for the friendly and close co operation which has prevailed throughout with all departments.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the kindness and consideration which they have afforded when dealing with the work of the Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

L. GROGAN,  
Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.



# APPENDIX

## Factories Act, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
in respect of the year 1965 for the Rural District  
of Cheltenham in the County of Gloucestershire.

Prescribed particulars on the  
Administration of the  
Factories Act, 1961

### Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which sections, 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	34	39	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	92	141	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	13	30	-	-
Total:	139	210	3	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	1	2	-

### PART VIII OF THE ACT

#### OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

No. of outworkers - nil.

